

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT Tightening of Security and Discipline
in the First Guards Mechanized Army

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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- 25X1 1. Order number 00599, [REDACTED] issued by the Military Council of the Army (Voyenny Sovet Armii) takes up the question of officer discipline, which has lately degenerated badly, causing low morale, desertion, and treason to the fatherland. The following statistics bearing on lack of discipline are quoted:
- 131 persons were detained by various komendatury;
 - 112 persons were guilty of drunkenness and debauchery;
 - 351 persons were found to have kept company with German women and to have patronized German restaurants;
 - 6 persons committed suicide;
 - 4 persons have deserted and committed treason.
2. The Military Council of the Army judges that the reasons are lack of effective control, ineffective educational work among officers, soft handling of some officers, organization of dancing parties at unsuitable times, drunkenness, etc.
3. Therefore the Commanding General of the Army issued the following orders:
- a. Commanding generals of divisions and their deputies are charged with rendering more effective the educational work among the officer corps, preparing special plans of work, and reading lectures on Soviet patriotism, duties of officers, officer ethics, responsibilities of officers stationed in foreign countries, the great aspirations of Communism, etc.
 - b. All regiments are to elect honor courts, organize periods of discussions and seminars for officers, and set definite hours during the workday and on holidays when officers may attend their clubs (workdays until 24 hours and holidays until 23 hours).
 - c. Officers are forbidden to patronize German entertainment places, theaters, motion picture theaters, private homes, and privately operated shower and bath installations.
 - d. Officers are forbidden to use automobiles to proceed to other garrisons, or to use German taxis to return to their units.

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- e. Proceeding from the barracks to the city is permitted only to those who have their commanding officer's order (po komandirochnym predpisaniyam) to do so; the names of such officers must be entered in a leave register (knizhka uvolnyayemykh).
 - f. Officers from other units will be detained.
 - g. Young officers living in hotels will be billeted with older officers who have been checked and found to be morally reliable (moralno-ustoichivy).
 - h. Officers are forbidden to go hunting alone; they may do so only in groups.
 - i. Officers are required to give an account of their expenditures in DM, especially after a drinking bout; those guilty of excessive drinking will be required to surrender their marks so that necessary articles may be bought for their dependents.
 - j. Unit commanding officers and others (presumably assigned by the commanding officers) will make bed checks of officers at 0030 hours; reports on this will be submitted to the Army Commander.
4. An additional security rule, not connected with Order Number 00599, concerns the telephone, whose use is restricted to regimental commanders, headquarters commandants and officers of equal rank. Conversations must be entered in the "journal for telephone conversations" (knizhka razgovorov po telefonu).

Comment: Telephones in private officer billets have long been removed.

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